

NAPOMYZA WESTWOOD, 1840 (INSECTA, DIPTERA): PROPOSED
CONSERVATION BY THE SUPPRESSION OF *NAPOMYZA*
CURTIS, 1837. Z.N.(S.)2495

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Thompson & Mathis (1980, p. 85) pointed out that the name *Napomyza*, used now for an agromyzid genus of wide distribution containing approximately 50 species of stem or seedfeeding flies (including several of economic importance) was first proposed by Curtis (1837, p. 282) in a hitherto overlooked publication, with the sole included species *Phytomyza nigricornis* Macquart, 1835, p. 618.

2. Curtis treated *Napomyza*, a name apparently derived from an unpublished manuscript by A. H. Haliday, as synonymous with *Phytomyza* Fallén (1810, p. 21), and was followed in this by Thompson & Mathis (1980). Hendel (1934, p. 334) regarded *Phytomyza nigricornis* as synonymous with *Phytomyza affinis* Fallén (1823, p. 3). Acceptance of this synonymy, based on Curtis' publication of *Napomyza*, would require all species presently placed in the genus *Napomyza* Curtis to be given another name. In the interests of stability this is clearly undesirable.

3. No original specimens of *Phytomyza nigricornis* Macquart have survived and information from Curtis' notebook and specimens, which are preserved in the Museum of Victoria, Melbourne, shows that three different species were confused by Curtis under this name. Following careful consideration, Griffiths (1976, p. 21) proposed that *Phytomyza nigricornis* should be treated as a *nomen dubium* and this is now accepted by specialists on the AGROMYZIDAE.

4. *Phytomyza affinis* Fallén, the identity of which was clarified by Spencer (1965) following study of Fallén's types in Stockholm, is a species entirely distinct from that assumed by Hendel (1934) and we therefore reject the synonymy of *Napomyza* Curtis with *Napomyza* Fallén.

5. Westwood (1840, p. 152) in his 'Synopsis' contains the following entry for *Napomyza*: 'S.g. *Napomyza* A.H.H. MSS. — 1 sp. *P. festiva*'. This indicates that the name was proposed as a subgenus of *Phytomyza* and derives from an unpublished manuscript by A. H. Haliday. Hendel (1920, p. 148) synonymised *Phytomyza festiva* Meigen (1830, p. 189) with *Phytomyza elegans* Meigen (1830, p. 148). Spencer (1966, p. 3) confirmed this synonymy, after examination of the types of both *elegans* and *festiva* in the Muséum National d'Histoire Naturelle, Paris. Griffiths (1968, p. 4) examined specimens of this species in the Haliday collection in Dublin which are assumed to be those referred to as *Phytomyia festiva* in Haliday's

(1833) catalogue of the Diptera occurring near Holywood in Downshire. The entry for *Napomyza* in Westwood's 1840 'Synopsis' thus poses no problems of interpretation. However, *Napomyza* Curtis, 1837 still remains a problem as the senior homonym.

6. *Napomyza* was treated as a full genus by Hendel (1920) and this is now generally accepted.

7. On the basis of the above facts the International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature is requested to:

- (1) use its plenary powers to suppress the generic name *Napomyza* Curtis, 1837 for the purposes of both the Principle of Priority and the Principle of Homonymy;
- (2) place on the Official List of Generic Names in Zoology the name *Napomyza* Westwood, 1840 (gender: feminine), type species, by monotypy, *Phytomyza festiva* Meigen, 1830;
- (3) place on the Official List of Specific Names in Zoology the name *elegans* Meigen, 1830, as published in the binomen *Phytomyza elegans* (valid name at the time of this application for the type species of *Napomyza* Westwood, 1840);
- (4) place on the Official Index of Rejected and Invalid Generic Names in Zoology the name *Napomyza* Curtis, 1837 as suppressed under the plenary powers in (1) above.

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